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Dkt. 2271/71536

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Yasuhiro KAWASHIMA

Serial No.: 10/810,227

Date Filed: March 26, 2004

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMAGE FORMING USING AN INK-JET

PRINTING SYSTEM

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, N.Y. 10036 (212) 278-0400

Taly 21, 2004
Padl Teng
Reg. No. 40,837
Date

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the information identified therein are also provided.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The information listed in the Form PTO-1449 was cited in a June 11, 2004 official Communication and European Search Report in connection with European Application No. EP 04 00 5017 which corresponds to the above-identified application. A copy of the June 11, 2004 Communication and European Search Report is enclosed herewith.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped,

however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicant's knowledge, a first Office Action on the merits has not been issued in this application.

Alternatively, Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1). Each item of information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior hereto. Accordingly, no fees are believed to be required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement.

However, the Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Teng, Reg. No. 40,837

Attorney for Applicant Cooper & Dunham LLP

1185 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036

(212) 278-0400

No

PTO-1449 Atty. Docket No. Serial No. **U.S.** Department of Commerce 2271/71536 10/810,227 Patent and Trademark Office Applicant: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Yasuhiro KAWASHIMA (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date: Group Art Unit: March 26, 2004 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Examiner Document Number Date Name Class **Subclass** Filing Date Initial if Appropriate 9 7 0 5-8-1984 Konkel et al. 4 6 8 4 4 6 1 4 4 8-28-1984 McMahon et al. 5 8 0 5 1 8 3 9-8-1998 Lidke et al. 5 9 0 3 7 4 3 5-25-1999 Takemura et al. |20|03|/0|01|62|71|A1 1-23-2003 Maki et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS **Document Number** Date Country Class **Subclass** Translation Yes

OTHE	R DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)
	June 11, 2004 Communication and European Search Report in connection with European
	Application No. EP 04 00 5017 which corresponds to the above-identified application.

EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.